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The Point of the Golden Triangle, Pittsburgh

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Pavilion, Great House and Church,
Old Economy, Ambridge, Pennsylvania

Cover: The Fort Pitt Blockhouse at the Point with Gateway Buildings in the background

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Fourteenth Annual Meeting

Programs and registration blanks for the National Trust's fourteenth annual meeting to be held October 21-23 in Pittsburgh, Pa., were mailed to the entire membership immediately after Labor Day. The professional program has been planned around several basic themes: "Pittsburgh Past, Present, and Future," "Tides of Taste, 1850-1900," "True or False; a discussion of aspects of integrity in historic preservation," and "Bulldozer or Blueprint; the problem of historic preservation and urban renewal." A guided architectural tour of the city of Pittsburgh will include visits to *Clayton*, the Frick family town house; the Braun House; and the Carnegie Institute Museum.

On Sunday, October 23, members will have a choice of tours. One will be by clipper ship down the Ohio to Ambridge, Pa., to the early Utopian community of the followers of Father Rapp, Old Economy. Buffet lunch will be served in the Music Hall, and Dr. S. K. Stevens, director of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, which administers the restored historic village, will lecture briefly on "Pennsylvania's Contribution to Religious Freedom." Dr. Lawrence Thurman, curator of Old Economy, will discuss "Economy and the Rappites," following which the members will tour the restored community and its gardens, where staff members will explain the musical and other activities of the community. The group will return by bus to the headquarters in the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel. The optional tour will be by bus to Bear Run, with lunch at a local lodge, to view *Fallingwater* designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, residence of Edgar J. Kaufman, Jr.

Advance registration and consultation is scheduled for Thursday, the evening before the meeting. The first session is the annual business meeting to be held from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m. Friday morning at the Pittsburgh Hilton at which David E. Finley, chairman of the Board of Trustees, will present his annual report; standing committees will report; and brief reports from member organizations will be presented.

Grady Clay, real estate and building editor of the Louisville (Ky.) *Courier-Journal*, acting editor of *Landscape Architecture*, and trustee of the American Planning and Civic Association, will be principal speaker at the fourteenth annual banquet. His topic will be "The Right of Cities to be Beautiful." Robert Woods Bliss, vice chairman of the Board of Trustees, will preside, and following the program, Ronald F. Lee, secretary of the National Trust, will present the first Crowninshield Award for outstanding service in the field of historic preservation.

Other speakers scheduled to participate in the program sessions are: Ivor Noel Hume, chief archaeologist, Colonial Williamsburg; Charles E. Peterson, supervising architect, Eastern

Clayton dining room

Office, Division of Design and Construction, National Park Service; Mrs. Nina Fletcher Little, writer and consultant on American Decorative Arts; Ralph Griswold, ASLA, landscape architect and site planner; Carleton Sprague Smith, musicologist and chief of the Music Division, New York Public Library; Clay Lancaster, architectural historian and author; Marvin Schwartz, curator of the decorative arts department, Brooklyn Museum; Richard S. Hagen, archaeologist and historical consultant for the Division of Parks and Memorials, Illinois Department of Conservation; Frederick D. Nichols, A.I.A., professor, School of Architecture, University of Virginia; Mrs. Henry Edmunds, executive director, Historic Charleston; William E. Finley, director, National Capital Planning Commission; Theodore L. Hazlett, Jr., general counsel, Urban Redevelopment Authority, Pittsburgh; Stanton Belfour, director, Pittsburgh Foundation; and Adolph Schmidt, president, A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust.

Mrs. Henry P. Hoffstot, Jr., is chairman of the National Trust committee for local arrangements. She is assisted by Miss Virginia P. Lewis, Herbert A. May, William Oliver, S. K. Stevens, Lawrence Thurman, John Walker, and Gordon B. Washburn.

TRUST APPOINTS DIRECTOR

Robert R. Garvey, Jr., of Winston-Salem, N. C., became executive director of the National Trust for Historic Preservation on September 1. Since 1955 Mr. Garvey has served as business administrator and executive director of Old Salem, Inc., a non-profit organization in the North Carolina city now restoring Salem, a Moravian congregation town settled in 1766. The area being restored is approximately 16 blocks in size and was built around the early green which was the religious, cultural, and educational center of the Wachovia settlement. The group consists of 13 buildings, four of which are open daily to the public. Its long-range plan includes restoring the early village atmosphere of 1766.

Mr. Garvey attended Davidson College in North Carolina from 1938 to 1941 as a pre-medical student, and the College of William and Mary in Virginia as an auditor 1941-42. After his flight training in the U. S. Navy, he served with the U. S. Marine Corps as a pilot in the Southwest Pacific. Released from active duty in 1945, he continued to serve in the Reserves until 1959, retiring with the rank of major. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Following the war, he was in business for five years in Winston-Salem before joining the staff of Old Salem, Inc.

During the years he has lived in Winston-Salem, Mr. Garvey has been active in civic affairs in the community and has taken a leading part in state promotional activities. He served on the North Carolina State Travel Council as both director and vice-president, where he was originator and first state chairman of the "See North Carolina Month" promotion. He has been active in the Boy Scouts of America for 21 years, and also served as executive committee member of the North Carolina Confederate Centennial Commission.

Mr. and Mrs. Garvey (she was the former Miss Nancy Douglas Maclay of Newport News, Va.) have four children.

SHADOWS PROGRESS REPORT

Contributions totalling $13,942.31 for the restoration fund of *Shadows-on-the-Teche*, a Trust property in New Iberia, La., were received by June 30 of this year and are being expended on immediate urgent repairs, including exterior painting, correction of acute drainage problems damaging to the mansion, and garden maintenance. Individual contributions were received from about 80 friends; two executors of Weeks Hall's estate contributed their fees of $855.28; a small child gave the entire contents of her piggy bank; and one young artist pledged and donated his beer budget for a month ($5.00). Four organizations, Beta Sigma Phi, Louisiana Landmarks, the Monroe Committee of the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of Louisiana, and the American Institute of Decorators contributed a total of $610 to add to a $10,000 fund allocated by the Trustees of the National Trust from headquarters' operating funds. From the American Institute of Decorators, a $250.00 fund was received for research in *The Shadows* archives on the interior paint colors, floor coverings, and fabrics used in furnishing the interior of the mansion. The A.I.D. will supply all of these materials for restoring the interior features.

Friends and relations of Weeks Hall also responded with reminiscences, transcripts of tapes telling of his theories for the preservation of his legacy to the American public in National Trust custodianship, letters of his, early photographs, and clippings. Three treasured photographs of Weeks Hall as a young boy, his mother, and father were sent by an elderly cousin in California.

A former classmate sending in a contribution wrote:

Those of us who were friends of Weeks Hall at the Academy were very fortunate,

William Weeks Hall as a young boy

for he was not only a delightful companion but had a knowledge and sophistication about what was then modern painting that left most of us far behind. Degas was his particular god but as I remember he was led enthusiastically to what were then the extreme moderns that we saw at Dr. Barnes'. It is hard for young people now to realize how little opportunity there was in those days, before 1917, to see even Degas in any numbers. He had a tiny studio, always very clean and tidy, full of classical records and art picture books, the latter not so easy to come by then.

At the Academy Weeks came and went very irregularly, no regular attendance was required. But at the end of the month when a certain amount of work had to be turned in he always brought the necessary number of canvases—and they were better than those of anyone else. Of course he won all the prizes and traveling scholarships there were. I have two of his canvases of that time. Extraordinary work for a student.

Many of us felt quite bitterly about *The Shadows* when it absorbed him after his return from Europe and he painted

less and less. But when he showed it to me—I think in the Spring of '29—I understood the hold this beauty had on him. I am so glad his beloved house will be preserved.

THE WALDEN FUND

During its first year of existence, the Walden Fund of the National Trust co-sponsored three preservation seminars in three states. "A Conference On Historic Buildings and Sites" was held September 23 and 24 at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Other co-sponsors were the Iowa Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks, the State Historical Society of Iowa, and the Iowa State Conservation Commission.

In June, Historic Annapolis held a two-day conference, jointly sponsored with the Washington Center for Metropolitan Studies and the Walden Fund. The conference brought together leaders in the fields of historic preservation, city planning, business, and civic affairs. Its purpose was to explore practical means by which old American cities, such as Annapolis, can preserve their traditions and human values while meeting the challenge of modern urban development.

The New Jersey Historical Society, the Burlington County Historical Society, and the Walden Fund presented the tenth annual New Jersey Historical Conference with sessions at Haddonfield, Burlington, and Mount Holly.

One of the faculty members at the "Spring in Springfield" (Ill.), preservation workshop donated to the Walden Fund the sum of $100.00 given him for his expenses. This gift has been added to the original $10,000 capital sum of the Walden Fund. Presented in 1959 by an anonymous donor, the income of the Walden Fund is devoted to the educational program of the National Trust, as a means of encouraging public participation in historic preservation.

HISTORICAL ADMINISTRATORS

Eleven grantees and six auditors completed studies at the second Seminar for Historical Administrators held at Williamsburg, Va., June 13-July 22. The course was sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Colonial Williamsburg, and the American Association for State and Local History. The grantees were Miss Patricia Billfaldt, Houston, Tex.; Nicholas Bragg, Raleigh, N. C.; John Byers, Jr., Macon, Ga.; William Evans, Jr., Long Beach, Calif.; Raymond Harrison, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada; Miss Marietta LeBreton, Metairie, La; David Merrill, New Haven, Conn.; Richard Resh, Madison, Wis.; Jules Selig, Philadelphia, Pa.; James Slayman, Madison, Wis.; and Lauren Soth, New York, N. Y. Auditors were John Curtis, Newton Center, Mass.; Miss Barbara Hess, Davenport, Iowa; Mrs. Henrietta Perry, Oakland, Calif.; Miss Marilyn Rogers, Cooperstown, N. Y.; Harry Henry Schnabel, Alexandria, Va.; and Henry Clay Watson, New Orleans, La.

MEMBERSHIP

New member organizations of the National Trust are the Clinton Historical Museum (N.J.), Colonial Dames Society Historical Foundation (Colo.), Committee for the Preservation of the Lafayette Building (S.C.), Daughters of the Cincinnati (N.Y.), McMillan, Inc. (N.Y.), Maine State Park Commission, Naval Reserve Association (D.C.), St. Augustine Historical Restoration & Preservation Commission (Fla.), Society of Mareen Duvall Descendants (D.C.), Winnetka Garden Guild (Ill.), and Woodlawn Memorial Historic Society (Ala.).

LEGISLATIVE VIEWPOINTS

"Demolition by Neglect" continues in defiance of an ordinance specifically forbidding it in the Old French Quarter of New Orleans, reports the bulletin of the Vieux Carré Property Owners and Associates (a Trust member). They intend to do something about it. A vigilante committee was appointed to report violations to the Vieux Carré Commission, which has the legal responsibility for carrying out provisions of the preservation ordinances protecting this old and historic area. One target of the committee will be the property owners who secured permission to remove decking from their galleries for repairs, and then left these characteristic iron and wooden embellishments, "gaping and naked."

W. Ripley Nelson, chairman of the Nantucket Historic Districts Commission, celebrated the tercentenary of the Massachusetts Island by reporting on a year of accomplishment in enforcing and guiding the historic preservation program of that organization. The Commission issued 95 "certificates of appropriateness" for structural work on old and new construction. Two of three buildings were given razing permits, and the third was granted a demolition permit conditional upon preserving a century-old bake oven on the premises. One special activity was in the field of sign regulation, which reported successful control over 35 new signs or modifications of old ones.

Sign regulation has also troubled the General Outdoor Advertising Co., Inc., and at its annual meeting in Flemington, N. J., they decided to do something about it. According to the report in the Wall Street *Journal*, a giant reproduction of Reuben's *Self Portrait* greeted the delegates. President Burr L. Robbins, explained it was part of a coming campaign to convince Americans that billboards are "the art gallery of the public." The company, which has been assailed by critics for placing billboards along scenic routes, will display the 15 x 8-foot reproduction of the Reubens and other noted paintings on billboards in selected American cities. Also scheduled for similar display in the art gallery of the public are *Mona Lisa, Blue Boy, Song of the Lark*, and *Lavinia*.

Request to demolish the house at 21 George Street in Charleston, S. C., has been rejected by the Board of Architectural Review. Under the city ordinance which was passed last year the owners of the property, the YWCA, must observe a 90-day waiting period before they may take further action to destroy the building. A Greek Revival house of the 1840 period, the dwelling is listed as "valuable" in *This Is Charleston*. The builder was Samuel Painter Ripley of Vermont who became a merchant and leading citizen of Charleston.

Grady Clay, addressing the California Council of Landscape Architects at Yosemite National Park last fall, pointing to rapid diminution of rural and scenic areas throughout the nation, offers his definition of urbanization: "An urbanized area, somebody has said, is one in which we have substituted traffic jam for forest preserve. It is former farmland held by speculators long enough to double their money; it is the place where city folks seek to pay off their mortgages in genteel company. It is land where five acres are made to do the work of one; where one husband does the work of five servants; where the field larks have been replaced by the Thunderbirds; where the straight furrow has been replaced by the wrinkled brow; asters by ulcers; where nature and man can live in harmony only so long as the power mower can be persuaded

to work." Mr. Clay will be the principal speaker at this year's annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

Led by three active preservation organizations, the Old Town Civic Association, the Historic Alexandria Foundation, and the Alexandria Association, a mass meeting of irate citizens of the old Virginia port town succeeded in halting an $18 million urban renewal project involving 24 blocks in the restoration area. More than 241 structures more than a century old, many of them fully restored and others of local historical and architectural significance, were threatened to provide malls, sites for high-rise apartment buildings, modern office buildings, and parking lots. As a result of the taxpayers' and citizens' direct intervention, the Mayor and City Council have returned the plan to John Kerr of New York, of the Redevelopment Housing Authority, with instructions to revise it to prevent demolition of old houses, and the relocation of modern buildings and facilities in a manner compatible with the history and tradition of the city which calls itself "George Washington's home town."

In voteless District of Columbia, Congress in the last-minute rush for adjournment voted $5 million, without public hearings and with no chance for appeal, to acquire the entire area on Capitol Hill bounded by First and Second Streets, S.E., Independence Avenue, and C Streets, including the narrow Carroll Street between. This is vaguely described in the legislation as site for a possible addition to Library of Congress, or for a future park. (Earlier plans for needed additions to Library of Congress have been in the area east of the present Annex of the Library.) There are 120 lots included in the block, 23 occupied by business concerns; the remainder are filled with early restored buildings built between the period 1810-1890. Approximately 400 persons living in the area face displacement, and the District of Columbia faces loss of $80,000 taxes annually. Among the historic structures scheduled for demolition is the Carroll-Dewey House, currently the Republican Club on First Street, one-time residence of the colorful Peggy Eaton who precipitated a social war during President Jackson's administration. The Fairfax House at 235-2nd Street, S.E., was built early in the nineteenth century on the old Carroll farm, and President John Tyler was a frequent visitor during the Fairfax's tenure. Brig. Gen. Thomas J. Betts, owner of the notable Federal house on 100 C Street, which is filled with many pieces of furniture and silver inherited by Mrs. Betts from her ancestor, Thomas Jefferson, recounted the history of the condemned area. The area before World War II had become deteriorated, and during the War filled up with tenants of boarding houses and "light housekeeping" residents in the housing-shortage period. Through the effort of individual homeowners deteriorated houses have been handsomely reclaimed, reported General Betts, and within the past six years the region by its own effort developed into one of Washington's residential showcases. A neighborhood protest meeting was held which was attended by residents of the area, and also by supporters from the Capitol Restoration Society, Capitol Hill Southeast Citizens Association, Lincoln Park Citizens Association, Southeast Businessmen's Association, and the Southeast Neighborhood House. Unlike the Alexandrians across the Potomac, their meeting ended on notes of hopeless condolence, and notices of eviction were received within the month of passage of the legislation.

—H. D. B.

CHICAGO LANDMARKS

A Landmarks Awards Dinner, sponsored by the Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks, the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, and the Society of Architectural Historians, was held recently for the awarding of plaques from the Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks to 38 Chicago buildings.

Fourteen buildings considered by the Commission to have special merit received individual commemorative citations. They were: *Leiter Building,* William LeBaron Jenney, architect; *J. J. Glessner House,* Henry H. Richardson, architect; *Rookery Building,* Burnham and Root, architects; *Auditorium Building,* Adler and Sullivan, architects; *Carrie Eliza Betty Tomb,* Louis H. Sullivan, architect; *Reliance Building,* Burnham and Root, architects; *Monadnock Building,* Burnham and Root, architects; *Gage Building,* Holabird and Roche, architects; *Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Building,* Louis H. Sullivan, architect; *McClurg Building,* Holabird and Roche, architects; *F. C. Robie House,* Frank Lloyd Wright, architect; *Edison Shop,* Purcell, Feick and Elmslie, architects; *860-880 Lake Shore Drive Building,* L. Mies van der Rohe, architect; and *Inland Steel Company Building,* Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, architects.

Garrick Building

Among the other 24 buildings honored is the Garrick Building, presently threatened with destruction. Designed in 1891 by Adler & Sullivan, it was recognized "for its soaring vertical sense and the integration of ornament expressive of its theatrical nature." The Balaban & Katz Corporation, owners of the building, accepted the plaque from the Commission but never installed it. Instead they gave notice to their tenants to find new quarters, stating that the building was "too old-fashioned," and they were losing too much money to keep the structure in use as an office building. The building was designed as a theater for a group of German-Americans, and it was first known as the Schiller. For many years it was the center of Chicago's legitimate theater business. Many song publishers with offices in the building made it at one time Chicago's Tin Pan Alley. In June concerned individuals formed the Chicago Heritage Committee which sought to acquire and rehabilitate the Garrick as part of the proposed Civic Center. When this was refused for "legal" reasons, local theater and music groups suggested the building would be an ideal Chicago Arts Center. No action has been taken, but Mayor Daley promised that "every possible step

will be taken by the city to preserve the architecturally famous Garrick Building."

A criteria was developed by the Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks in an effort to select buildings of architectural integrity, rather than weak or imitative works. A definite contribution in one of the following criteria is requisite to listing a given building.

1. *Architectural Merit.* Some contribution in one or more of the areas: conception, expression, design; plus materials, ornament, and craftsmanship, whenever they contribute to the other three.

Under conception was considered the projection of the building as a whole, satisfying the conditions which caused it to be built, and enhancing the values in human relationships taking place within and around it. (E. g., the Rookery, as a group of shops and offices around a quiet, semi-private "square," and, once built and occupied, modifying the view of an office building previously held by its users and influencing to some extent their thoughts and actions.)

Expression was defined as the handling of the elements and forms of the building to conform to or suggest (1) any aspects of the building (as to function, form, structure, or materials) that are considered important, or (2) any aspects of the life of the times (social, artistic, or technological) that are considered important. (E.g., the handling of the fenestration and wall sections of the Carson, Pirie, Scott store to suggest the large horizontal spaces for display for goods.)

In design, thought was given to the integration of the materials and elements into a language that is visually interesting, and the arrangement of the larger parts so that the building is satisfying by the proportion and emphasis of the parts and the unity and variety of the whole. (E.g., the Robie house. Here the shape (and color) of the brick, as it relates to the forms of piers and wall sections (and the color of the wood and plaster), creates a language that is interesting in itself; and the arrangement of the horizontal sections of wall, related to and contrasted with bands of "window," and

860-880 Lake Shore Drive, 1951, L. Mies van der Rohe, architect. Recognized for "its open plan in a multi-story apartment building where the steel cage becomes expressive of the potentialities of steel and glass in architectural design."

echoed in the roof lines, the proportions of these sections, the emphasis in the roof lines and the contrast between the two sections of roof, etc., are very effective. Hence, whatever its other qualifications, it would rate a brilliant and original design.)

2. *Structure.* Any contribution affecting architectural design as in structural materials, iron, steel, and reinforced concrete; foundations, as "raft," deep piles, use of caissons, etc.; and framing, as balloon, skeleton (cage), wind bracing, etc.

3. *Planning.* Important developments in planning, as in office buildings (closed court, open court, organization for elevators, for light, etc.), hotels, apartment houses, private houses, etc. Effective use of a relation of site and surroundings.

The Well-Rooted City Neighborhood

GEORGE MCCUE
adapted from an article in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*
of Sunday, July 3, 1960

One side of big city redevelopment has received too little attention is its disruptions of neighborhood life.

The total demolition sort of site clearance, which greatly simplifies the job of laying out the tract for new land use, often is carried by a sort of rolling momentum into blocks that are by no means slums, although they may be old and even touched by blight. In such sections, the community has serious obligations to think long and hard before it sends in the wrecking crane and the bulldozer, and new questions are being raised as to the obligations to its displaced persons.

In Boston, a five-year study is being made of mental health problems that grow out of the breaking up of old neighborhoods, and the transplanting of long-time residents into new surroundings.

Another study, in the same city, was made of the general human implications of redevelopment and relocation. The latter was carried out by Herbert J. Gans, who teaches both city planning and sociology at the University of Pennsylvania.

Gans said, in a report published by the *Journal* of the American Institute of Planners, that the redeveloper and his tenants often benefit more than the people displaced by the project. For his study, Gans lived for eight months in the West End of Boston, where 50-year-old low apartment buildings were cleared from 48 acres of land to make way for new elevator apartment buildings.

Here the 7,500 residents in 2,800 households lost their neighborhood, and more. Many of the Polish and Italian families who had lived there for 20 to 40 years, in a well-working social system, are being uprooted and scattered.

"In effect," Gans argued, "the present low-income population will subsidize the clearance of their neighborhood and the apartments of their high-income successors, both by their own losses and by their share of the federal and local tax monies used to clear the site. To balance these costs, the only benefit to be received by most residents is the moving allowance."

The Boston relocation is not generally comparable with the Mill Creek Valley removals in St. Louis, the largest urban redevelopment project ever undertaken in the United States. In this section, more than 11,000 residents are being moved from 5,100 dwelling units, of which 97 per cent were substandard and many in a state of near collapse.

Most of Mill Creek Valley offered no practical alternative to demolition, regardless of the neighborhood disruption. However, several blocks of it, already scraped clean, represent a rueful architectural loss. In Washington, D. C., dwellings older and in worse condition than some of the fine town houses in St. Louis have been restored in Georgetown and Capitol Hill, and it would have been much to St. Louis' credit to have found a means of preserving parts of this historic section.

But there is a note of cheer in the Murphy Urban Renewal Project on the North Side of St. Louis. In this section, a combination slum clearance and rehabilitation program is being planned.

The Murphy Area has 1,200 acres and 60,000 people. Fortunately for St.

Louis, many of its mid-nineteenth century brick houses, with their dormer windows, handsome cornices, iron balconies, and white stone steps are in sound condition.

Fortunately for St. Louis, too, the City Plan Commission has authorized the Landmarks Association to survey the Murphy Area, to see what should be preserved. Landmarks has already sponsored a public tour of this and other North Side neighborhoods, and invites volunteers to help with the survey.

SPAIN

The Society for the Preservation of Castles in Spain extended an invitation through its president, the Marques de Salles, to the Louisiana Landmarks Society (a Trust member) to become its Louisiana chapter. This preservation group is engaged in the monumental task of trying to arouse interest, preserve, and restore the 2,000 castles which are Spain's heritage. Louisiana Landmarks Board of Directors agreed to become the Louisiana Chapter of the Spanish Society; the Spanish Society was particularly pleased to have the chapter because of Louisiana's Spanish background.

An exhibition consisting of many photographs, plans, and tapestries relating to Spanish castles is now being shown in London and during 1960 will be sent to the United States to the Illinois chapter in Chicago for exhibition. The Landmarks Society will also display the material in the Gallier City Hall in New Orleans. The Louisiana Landmarks Society will eventually have one of the restored castles set aside by the Society in Spain for an exhibition of Louisiana landmarks and their work in New Orleans. Itineraries for visits to the castles near Madrid are available through the courtesy of the Spanish Society.

GEORGETOWN'S CITY TAVERN

City Tavern, the last of Georgetown's 15 early taverns, is being restored by the newly formed City Tavern Association, for a private membership club in Washington, D. C. Assumed by local historians to have been lost or destroyed, the tavern's existence was discovered by National Park Service historian, Cornelius Heine, while searching records for history of the Old Stone House, now a museum.

When Washington was laid out in 1791, what had been the incorporated city of George Towne was included within the "ten miles square" boundaries for the Federal District. In 1796 when the tavern began operation, Georgetown was flourishing as a seaport in touch with Europe and as a market town with inland roads and waterways, reaching westward toward the Ohio territory. The inn had a succession of innkeepers, and many names: City Tavern, Indian King, Columbian Inn, United States Hotel, Lang Hotel, and Georgetown Hotel. The tavern became a gathering place for merchants, statesmen, and presidents in the early years of the republic. A grand banquet and reception was held there for John Adams on June 5, 1800, some months before Adams became the first president to occupy the White House. "Entertainment given to the President of the United States by the Citizens of George Town on Friday night at Mr. McLaughlin's Tavern," reported the *Centinel of Liberty*, on June 10, 1800, "provided seventeen toasts, in reply to which President Adams proposed: 'George Town: May its prosperity equal the ardent enterprise of its inhabitants and the felicity of their situation.' " Mrs. Adams was not so pleased with George Town, as revealed in Abigail Adams' *Letters:* "the very dirtiest Hole I ever saw for a place of any trade or respectability of inhabitants."

The ground floor of the City Tavern has been gutted and reshaped, and its front refaced with stucco, but from the rear the three original brick stories and four dormers are visible. More than a century of use for various commercial ventures, including a drug store, auction room, and print shop, has not erased all the early interior architectural details.

The City Tavern Association, which includes many National Trust trustees and members among its founders and charter members, has title to the property. Completion of the restoration, directed by the architectural firm of Macomber & Peter, is scheduled for 1961. The Committee on Restoration is composed of H. Alexander Smith, Jr., chairman, Mrs. H. Struve Hensel Gordon Gray, and Mrs. Joseph Weller; Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, National Archives, is chairman of the Interpretation Committee.

Fort Jesup

When the United States bought the Louisiana Territory in 1803, the western boundary was not clearly defined. Into this "Neutral Strip," a no-man's land in which neither the United States nor Mexico had jurisdiction, poured outlaws who preyed upon settlers moving into the Southwest. The boundary dispute was finally settled by the Treaty of Washington in 1819, when America's western border was established at the Sabine River. Three years later Col. Zachary Taylor founded Cantonment Jesup, named for the then Quartermaster General of the Army, Thomas Sidney Jesup. Twenty-five miles west of Natchitoches, this outpost was command headquarters for the entire Western Department of the United States Army. Situated on the San Antonio Trace, the old El Camino Real, it was a short march to the Sabine frontier, and soldiers stationed

Restored kitchen at Fort Jesup.

there quickly cleared the outlaws from the old Neutral Strip. Later thousands of troops passed through the Fort enroute to Texas when the war with Mexico loomed. In May 1845 General Taylor was ordered to Fort Jesup to take command of the "Army of Observation" concentrating there. The following year, when war was declared, he launched from the Fort the expedition that resulted in victory for the United States. Fort Jesup had done its work too well. America's southwestern border was now the Rio Grande; the Fort, no longer needed, was abandoned in 1846, its garrison never to return.

March dedication ceremonies marked the opening of the Fort as a state monument. Restoration and reconstruction work was done by the Louisiana State Parks and Recreation Commission, with the cooperation of the Louisiana State Highway Department and the Louisiana Department of Public Works.

The only remaining structure of 82 that once covered the area, an old hewn log kitchen for enlisted men, has been restored. It stands behind the ruins of 8-feet high stone pillars which once supported one of the soldiers' quarters. Six of these soldiers' quarters,

also dating from the earliest period of the Fort, lined the western side of the parade ground. There were wide verandas on the front and back of almost every building which was not unlike the typical eighteenth-century dwellings of Louisiana.

A kitchen stood behind each of the quarters and served the 20-25 men housed there. The restored kitchen is built of squared timbers, laid one atop the other with "waterproof" or slanted interlocking joints at the corners. The fireplace inside is made of stone with a 7½ foot opening at the hearth. The interior of the combination kitchen and mess-hall has been refurnished as it would have been in the 1840 period. There are sturdy benches and tables of native cypress, storage bins, plate racks, washing and serving tables, all of which would have been made at the Fort by the post carpenters. All the iron and pewter utensils issued would have been purchased by the Quartermaster's Department in New Orleans and shipped up the river to the Fort. Most of the items and equipment for the present installation were found in New Orleans shops. An old butcher block and several other original items have been returned to the kitchen. Preserved fowl hang from a game hook overhead, showing that the little fresh meat the men ate, they shot themselves on off duty hours.

The kitchen's history is told in an exhibit which includes the "soldiers' diet" over the past 150 years. Post returns from the Fort reveal that it was not unusual for half the men at the post to be reported sick. Outside the building it is proposed that a beehive oven be built, and a company garden planted. This will further illustrate the army diet of this pre-Civil War period.

One divergence from the original plans of the Fort has been the placement of the reconstructed officers' quarters. There were four buildings of this design dating from the reconstructed period in the 1830's which stood on the eastern side of the quadrangle and faced the present building. This structure was reconstructed because it could meet the needs of a meeting hall and information center, with a third floor for future museum expansion. In comparison with this building is another reconstructed officers' quarters dating from the earliest period of the post, with its kitchen behind it, which will be used as the superintendent's residence.

In the museum is told the story of the military outpost through maps, documents, illustrations, and military artifacts. A diorama will show the fort under reconstruction in the 1830's. One room is shown as a commanding officer's bedroom, as it would have appeared when General Taylor was at the post in 1845. All the items in this exhibit, as well as many others in the museum, have been financed and donated to the park by local persons whose family history mingles with that of Fort Jesup.

—Clay Watson, Museum Technician
Louisiana State Parks Commission

Eagle emblem on U. S. Dragoons helmet, part of original uniform exhibited at Fort Jesup. It is believed to be one of only two surviving.

IN DANGER

Minneapolis, Minn. "Why destroy an admittedly sound and useful office building, which pays substantial taxes and at the same time has historic and notable civic interest, such as the Metropolitan building (formerly Guaranty Loan), to provide a parking lot that will cost the taxpayers more than $750,000 and pay virtually no taxes into the city treasury?" asks Walter H. Wheeler of Minneapolis.

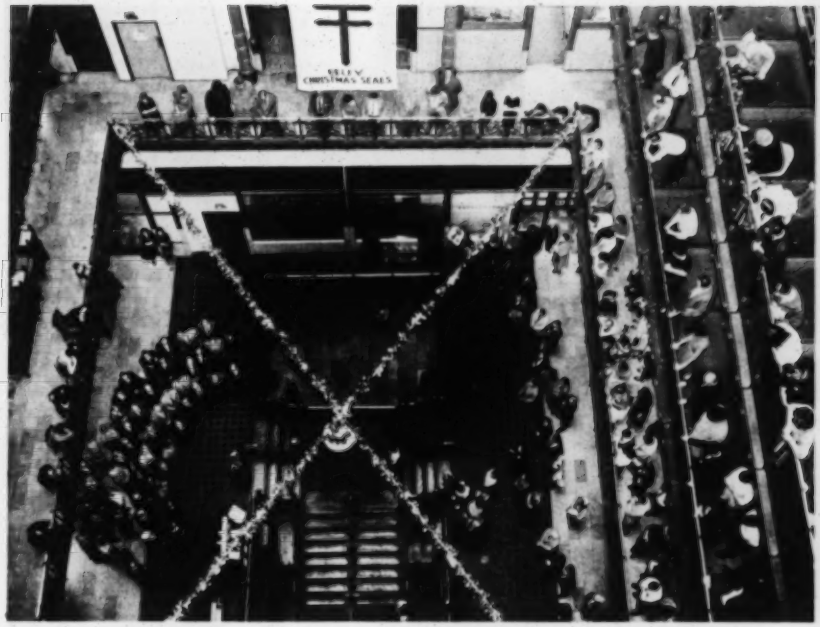
The building, known as the first skyscraper west of Chicago, became famous throughout the United States. It has 12 floors, an interior open court, a roof garden cafe with glass floors, contains six acres of floor space, and cost approximately $2 million. The plans of the Guaranty Loan Building were completed in 1890 and gave Leonard S. Buffington, prominent Minneapolis architect in the 1800's and early 1900's, the inspiration to patent "Iron Building Construction." His application is dated November 17, 1887, and a basic patent, U. S. No. 383,170, was issued to him on May 22, 1888. His patent, including 14 claims, is the first recorded patent covering this type of building construction. Claim 1 reads, "A building having a continuous skeleton of metal, a covering of veneer, and a non-conducting packing between the skeleton and veneer." The Buffington patent also covers the open interior court type of design with elevators and stairs in the court similar to the Metropolitan Building, but used in combination with skeleton construction.

Baltimore, Md. The Junior Association of Commerce is leading a group of interested civic organizations in a campaign to save the city's landmarks, a need brought anew to the public's attention because of the threatened disposal by the city of the Charles Carroll mansion and the proposed razing of the tower of Number 6 Engine House. In listing the causes for the destruction of landmarks, John W. Foster, director of the Maryland Historical Society, mentions "just plain apathy." The proposed organization, to be known as Baltimore Heritage, Inc., would indicate a definite interest on the part of groups whose concern is with cultural aspects of the community, and those planning the general design of Baltimore.

Pendleton, S. C. The Pendleton Farmers' Society has organized a foundation for historic preservation to save *Woodburn* and other historic houses in the area. *Woodburn*, the residence of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, is now in disuse and decay. In coming to Pendleton from Charleston, Pinckney had followed his older brother, Col. Thomas Pinckney, Jr., and had built *Altamont*. Their father was Gen. Thomas Pinckney, one-time governor of South Carolina, minister to England, and Federalist candidate for Vice President in 1796; their uncle was Gen. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney who signed the Constitution of the United States. Both brothers were scientific agriculturalists and the builder of *Woodburn* was a pioneer in missionary work among the slaves. *Woodburn*, a 150-year-old structure, is almost a duplicate of the earlier *Altamont* which is no longer in existence. Tradition says that the Pinckneys named *Woodburn* from a couplet in one of Sir Walter Scott's poems:

> "Where Reed upon her margin sees
> Sweet Woodburn's cottages and trees."

Florissant, Mo. Although seven generations of the Mullanphy-Chambers-Polk family have lived in the 140-year-old *Taille de Noyer*, and those living there would like to remain, the house may be lost to school expansion plans. The title to the property goes back to Spanish land-grant days, but the school



Interior court of the Metropolitan building, from the fifth floor, Christmas, 1959. Walter H. Wheeler states, "The singing of carols at Christmas time has been a regular thing for as long as I have been in the building—since 1916. It is the only building in Minneapolis where this sort of thing can be done and have all the tenants from the first floor to the twelfth enjoy and see it."

district may acquire the tract under the right of eminent domain. The intention is to try to negotiate a sale with the Polk family; if this fails, condemnation action is contemplated. "We are aware of the historical significance of this old house," states the president of the Board of Education, "and are trying to find a solution. If possible the school addition will be designed to save the old house, which might be moved to one corner of the lot. . . . The site was selected because it is in the exact center of the district and was the best place to put a junior high school to serve the entire district."

"Saving the old house is of community-wide importance," writes Charles van Ravenswaay, director of the Missouri Historical Society. "The public should take a stand. Once *Taille de Noyer* was the only house between Florissant and St. Louis. It is unusually representative of nineteenth-century St. Louis country life and is architecturally important."

John Mullanphy, St. Louis' first millionaire, gave his daughter Jane a 350-acre farm, which included the present *Taille de Noyer,* to induce her and her husband to return to the area after their marriage in New York. The house, changed somewhat by succeeding generations, is almost completely furnished with family heirlooms. John Mullanphy came to St. Louis to establish a mercantile business after prospering in the cotton trade. He was born in Ireland, served in France as a soldier, and came to the United States with his bride to seek and make his fortune.

Matthew Mansion

DESTRUCTION

Shreveport, La. The house that witnessed the last surrender of the Confederacy on land has recently been torn down. The structure was the personal headquarters of Gen. E. Kirby Smith in 1863 when he commanded the trans-Mississippi department of the Confederacy. In April 1864 it was the object of the Union's Red River expedition, which was turned back at the Battle of Mansfield. The last remaining Confederate flag on land was hauled down from the house's flagpole on June 11, 1865.

Alexandria, Va. A four-story, 20-room house which was commandeered during the Civil War and operated as a 160-bed hospital for Union occupation troops was demolished in the early summer to make room for an office building. The house was built about 1830 by an English builder and was the subject of a Mathew Brady photograph during the War.

Norwalk, Conn. Matthews Mansion, described in a New York *Times* article of August 5, 1867, as "scarcely without a rival in the United States," will be demolished to make way for a new Civic Center. It was designed by Detlef Lienau for New York broker and railroad financier, LeGrand Lockwood, who had made a fortune on his speculations during the Civil War. Lienau arrived in New York from Paris in October 1848 and began to practice architecture. Prior to the Civil War he established his reputation by designing churches, town and country houses in New York and in Newport, R. I. "His Hart M. Shiff house of 1850," writes Robert Kock, professor of art at Southern Connecticut State College, "marks the introduction of the French mansard roof to this country and his Beach Cliffe villa for De Lancy Kane of 1852 in Newport is the first to show the revival of the French chateau which later became so popular in that area. More than 20 years before the famous palatial houses were built for the Vanderbilts in New York and Newport, in the Matthews mansion Lienau introduced the style of buildings which soon became characteristic of the 'Gilded Age.'"

For Lockwood, he designed a chateau combining French and Scottish elements, fully satisfying the Victorian demand for the picturesque in architecture. The mansion had 13 bathrooms and an elevator, a novelty in 1866. Granite for the structure was imported and had to be hauled from the river by ox-cart. It cost more than a million dollars to build and was occupied by the Lockwood family for less than a decade. After the panic of 1873 it was put on the market and sold three years later to Charles D. Matthews, a carbonated beverage magnate of New York, for a sum variously reported from $60,000 to $90,000. In 1939 the city of Norwalk purchased the property.

Somerset, Pa. President William McKinley's summer White House will be destroyed and replaced by a parking lot. The structure is a 17-room mansion, located adjacent to the public square known as McKinley Square.

President McKinley was here when the Czar of Russia requested that the United States government participate in the peace conference at the Hague. It was also from this location that the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo was opened in 1901 by remote control, the President pressing a telegraph key in Somerset, Pa., to start the electrical display. The Historical and Genealogical Society of Somerset County was organized in September, 1959, too late to wage a campaign to save the structure.

Chicago, Ill. The Robert Todd Lincoln mansion, designed by architect S. S. Beman, who had planned the model industrial town of Pullman, will be razed. Robert, son of Abraham Lincoln, lived in the 20-room mansion with his family from 1893 to 1911. Titus Haffa, wealthy manufacturer bought the structure in January 1959 to save it from being wrecked and replaced by an apartment building. The city now has condemned the vacant house as unsafe because of work started in the initial wrecking plans and recent damage caused by vandals. Haffa said that because of the condition of the building there is no point in renovation. He has delayed wrecking plans, however, to permit institutions, preferably charitable ones, and school children to obtain relics. A spokesman for Haffa said there are no present plans for the site. At the time of the purchase Haffa said the price was about $175,000. He said he spent an additional $25,000 in legal fees and other costs in his effort to save the house from destruction.

Robert Todd Lincoln house, shortly after it was built in 1893.

Oysters in Their Shells

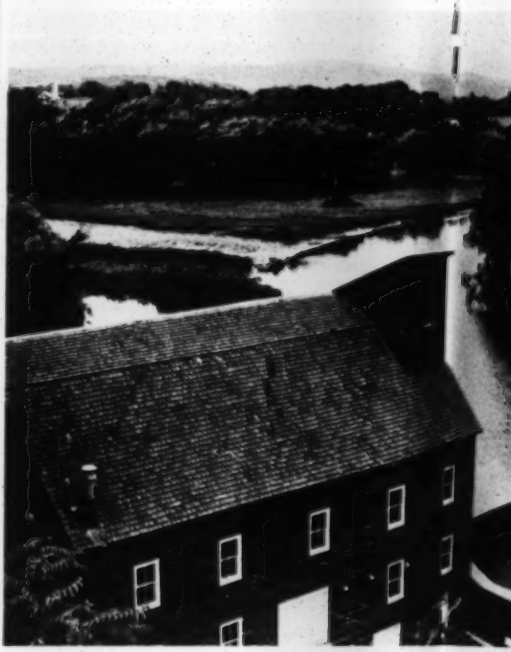
Just as the National Trust contends it is better to repair than restore, better to restore than reconstruct, it also urges contemporary use for old structures. Few buildings fit into the four categories of historic house museums listed by Charles Montgomery, director of the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum at Winterthur, Del.: the biographical house *(Sagamore Hill)*, the house that is a monument to a moment (Washington's Morristown headquarters), the era house *(The Breakers)*, or the area house (Corbit House).

Contemporary use may be the same purpose for which the structure was built, or it may be different from the original function, but in keeping with the demands of its twentieth-century environment. This secondary function may be to house a collection, but the collection will be the primary feature.

The preservation of domestic buildings of outstanding aesthetic or architectural importance is today probably the English National Trust's chief preoccupation, and many are inevitably country houses. However, whatever the circumstances and whatever the size of the house, the English Trust emphasizes that it makes no attempt to treat the latter as a museum. "It believes that few country houses make satisfactory museums," says Robin Romilly Fedden, executive secretary of the Historic Buildings Committee of England's National Trust. "On the contrary it is Trust policy to preserve houses as living organisms. Life, after transfer to the Trust, goes on as before. If one may phrase it so, the oyster is still in the shell. . . ."

Through renovation and restoration more and more structures across the United States are having the oysters returned to their shells. There are few country houses here of the type of which Mr. Fedden speaks, but there are a variety of structure types, including ships.

Twentieth-century business is being carried on in a house steeped with traditions of a family having roots in the settlement of old Elizabethtown, N. J. The dwelling is the Townley



The Clinton Historical Museum, Old Red Mill, and t
Old Stone Mill, at the confluence of the Raritan and

house, the lower part having been built *c.* 1740 and the higher and larger part in 1820. The newer section is regarded as an outstanding example of Georgian architecture. Taken apart piece by piece, it painstakingly was put together to become part of the plant of the Elastic Stop Nut Corporation. Unable to obtain priorities for new materials in World War II, de-

spite its classification as a defense plant, ESNA bought the historic building in 1944 to use during the years of shortages. The management likes to think that the house helped win the war. Today ESNA still is spreading, but the structure remains dedicated to the modern age. It is the headquarters for the company's advertising staff,

d Mill, and the Hunterdon County Art Center, Raritan and Spruce Run Rivers, Clinton, N. J.

and several of its rooms are used for storage and files.

The second of two eighteenth-century mills which gave Clinton, N. J., its original name of Hunt's Mills will become a cultural center. The first, a five-story stone mill which ground the grain for flour for George Washington's troops, has been the Hunterdon County Art Center since 1953. With more than 800 members, the rural cultural center has a little theatre, large exhibition space, library and kitchen among its facilities. In March five history-minded residents of the county purchased the second mill, a 200-year-old wooden structure directly across the South Branch of the Raritan River from the art center. Restoration of the second mill will be completed in the near future, and it will house exhibits of early American crafts and historical items of the area. Plans include the installation of a 15-foot waterwheel which will operate eighteenth-century tools used in farming and industry. Records show that the mill predates 1763 when it was deeded to David McKinney. The purchasers were encouraged in their undertaking by an officer of the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects who said that in a seven-state survey of historic buildings for the Institute 25 years ago, he found the "unusual combination of stream, dam, and two old mills . . . a heritage of such importance it should be preserved and developed for the most appropriate use."

Ten years ago, the Standard Oil Company gave to the city of Vicksburg, Miss., the great old Steamer *Sprague*. For years, this majestic boat, the largest paddlewheeler ever to ply the waters of the Mississippi, had coursed the length of the big river, carrying her great loads of oil and making her influence felt as the queen of the river. She had come to the end of her service, but her past was so great, it was felt she should not be demolished and dismantled. Today, reflecting the magnificence and romance of the most exciting era of the Mississippi, she houses the River Hall of Fame exhibit, a record of river transportation through the years. She is also used for theatrical performances and serves as the headquarters of the Vicksburg Yacht Club.

Thalian Hall has been the home of the Thalian Association, Wilmington, N. C., since 1858. The association sponsors what is probably one of the oldest little theatre groups in the United States, having been organized in 1788. On opening night in the new Thalian Hall, with the presentation of "The Honey-Moon" and "The Loan of A Lover," the Thalian Association was praised for its energy and the taste in tone and decoration of the theatre. "To Mr. Donald MacRae, whose energy, perseverance, and acknowledged business ability, we are indebted for this beautiful theatre which reflects so much credit upon our city." The theatre seated 950, one of the country's largest and the largest south of Richmond. The stage and auditorium were lighted with 188 gas burners. Under the stage were six dressing rooms, a music room, and a "Green Room." The late Tyrone Power, in 1958, said Thalian Hall was one of the most beautiful theatres in the United States or Europe. Through the years the theatre has been repaired many times, in 1881, 1909, 1910, and 1941. In 1946 the theatre was found to be in need of restoration; this was undertaken jointly by the city of Wilmington and the Thalian Association. In addition to being used by the little theatre, the Hall is available for conventions, concerts, shows, lectures, recitals, and meetings.

New York City's Fort Schuyler, located in Throgg's Neck, is used as the training college of the New York State Merchant Marine Academy. Throgg's Neck was first considered for a fort in 1818. Construction was begun in 1833 and the fort was ready for use in 1845. During the Civil War the fort was used by artillerymen, and in June 1877 it was re-garrisoned by the infantry. Its plan is an irregular pentagon, and it was considered the finest example of the French type of

fort for land and sea defense built in the United States. In the early part of the present century it was abandoned and fell into disrepair. It was restored and altered for the use of the Academy during 1934-38 by the W.P.A. An additional floor was introduced under the arches to provide a mezzanine floor.

Fluorescent lights shine down from ceilings that are bordered with ornate plaster cornices, large conference tables give a businesslike air to a formal drawing room, filing cabinets stand starkly against old cypress paneling. Charleston, S. C., has a number of structures that fit this description. They were originally fine dwellings and have now been completely converted into office buildings. Three of the four listed below are rated "valuable to the city" in *This Is Charleston*, an evaluative architectural report. The new owners of the structures were convinced that once a sizeable outlay of money was used to put an old dwelling in sound condition, expenses for upkeep would

not be unreasonable. Use of the Middleton-Pinckney house by the city water works goes back to the last century. Built about 1797, the house was completely redecorated in 1947. The third-floor ballroom is used for commission meetings. The local chapter of the American Red Cross has its administrative offices on all three floors of an old house at 144 Wentworth Street. This post-Revolutionary house was used for women's war work during World War I, given as a memorial in 1922 by Miss Mary Jane Ross. Across the street the Rodgers mansion provides 44 offices in its central building for the Atlantic Coast Life Insurance Company. Built in 1885, it was taken over for its present use in 1941. Installation of an elevator was the main change made to the elaborate, mahogany-paneled interior. The Greek Revival house at 138 Wentworth Street has been headquarters of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina for more than a decade. The Catholic Diocese of Charleston recently set up headquarters in a house built *c.* 1803.

Trocadero Inn, San Francisco, Calif., is thought to have been constructed in the 1890's. It was restored in 1928 by California architect, Bernard Maybeck, its present trim and ornamental moulding having been added in 1937. Under the administration of the City Park and Recreation Department, *Trocadero Inn* is today a recreation center. Homesteader George M. Green built the *Trocadero* as a public hotel; it became a political resort and was the 1907 hideout of political boss Abe Ruef. Mrs. Sigmund Stern purchased the property in 1931 and presented it to the city of San Francisco for recreational and cultural purposes as a memorial to her husband.

The ornate old Louisville Water Company pumping station, on the Ohio River, soon will have a new name, the Potamological Institute. It is expected to be the only full-fledged potamological institute in the United States, and it may be one of only three in the world. Russia and Czechoslovakia are known to have potamological research laboratories. Potamology is the science of rivers and a potamological institute is devoted to the study of rivers and the aquatic life in them. The Louisville Water Company agreed to lease the pumping station, more noted for its architecture than for its pumping ability, to the University of Louisville for an annual rental fee of $500. The research project will be carried out jointly by the University and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission.

The Howard Memorial Library, perhaps the best example of the Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in New Orleans, was recently threatened with destruction. Its new owner, the John Mecom Oil Company, has refurnished it for offices. The structure was erected in 1888 from the designs of H. H. Richardson, although it was built after his death by his successors, Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge of Boston.

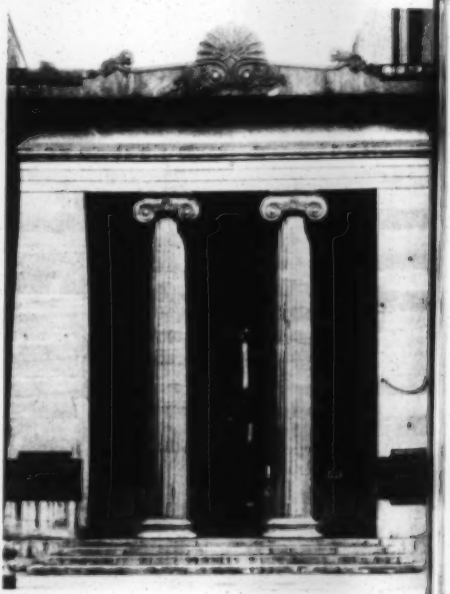
Trocadero Inn

In 1832 Kentucky had only two banks—one at Louisville and one at Lexington, both branches of the Bank of the United States. In the same year the Louisville branch, which had been chartered in 1818, completed its handsome new quarters on Main Street near Third. The building, with a portico whose architectural nobility was immensely admired, became a source of much civic pride. The ingenuity of its construction also won praise. The banking rooms were on the first floor, while the second floor was reserved for bachelor apartments to be occupied by unmarried officers and directors of the institution. Thus the bank's protection around the clock was thought to be assured. Andrew Jackson, however, regarded the Bank of the United States as a monstrous monopoly—particularly after the 1832 presidential campaign in which he felt that the bank and its president, Nicholas Biddle, had meddled to his disadvantage. In the next year, after Jackson's re-election, the government's deposits in the Bank of the United States were withdrawn, and all hope of renewal of the bank's charter had vanished. In Kentucky, the 1833 legislature began chartering state banks. One of these took over the Main Street establishment. The building, although its original inspiration was cut short by the fortunes of political war, is today a serviceable structure. The Life Insurance Company of Kentucky is going to renovate and redecorate it, with respect for its essential dignity, which time has hardly touched, and in appreciation of its value as one of Kentucky's historical monuments.

One phase of the "living tradition" at *Woodlawn Plantation*, National Trust property, Mount Vernon, Va., is the use of 65 acres of *Woodlawn* frontage facing the Potomac River. The pasture is leased to the Fort Belvoir Polo Club which had its inaugural benefit match in 1959.

On the night of a dinner and ball given in his honor at New Bern, N. C., in April 1791, President George Washington was the house guest of an illustrious Revolutionary patriot, John Wright Stanly. Several years ago the house was saved from demolition by the New Bern Historical Society. Until sufficient funds can be raised for proper restoration, it is serving as a public library. The Stanly mansion was designed for an unknown person by John Hawks, architect of Tryon Palace. Stanly bought the property in 1779 while it was still in the preliminary stages of construction. Despite the loss of 14 ships engaged in privateering during the Revolutionary War, Stanly was a very wealthy man. Commanding his own fleet, he had the power to put his skilled boatwrights to work on a land job and didn't have

Bank of Louisville Building,
Gideon Shyrock, architect



to rely on a meager supply of carpenters. In the fashion of the sea, the outer walls are shiplapped, a method rarely employed in the South.

Old Absinthe House, New Orleans, La., was reopened recently after extensive restoration and redecoration. Now in its 208th year and said to be the oldest wine shop in the United States, the Old Absinthe House building is cited as an example of fine Spanish colonial architecture. The Bourbon Street patio has been restored and now serves as an entrance.

The Rhode Island School of Design in Providence is using several old structures in carrying out its program. The architectural department is housed in a 1773 market which has also served as the city hall and offices for the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce. The building was condemned by the city superintendent of Public Buildings in 1938, and its third story and roof were taken down as a WPA project with intent to rebuild it as a commercial building. The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects succeeded in halting the destruction, pending plans for restoration by the city architect with assistance from the chapter. The work was carried out in 1940, but the building remained idle for almost 10 years. The city then gave it to the Design School in 1949 when it was converted to its present use. The Dr. George W. Carr house is used as a dormitory. Constructed in 1885, the house is typical of E. I. Nickerson's works which climaxed the nineteenth-century rococo trend in Rhode Island, before the shift to classic revival. Also on the campus of the school are the 1853 Central Congregational Church whose architect was Thomas A. Tefft and the 1823 tavern, known as Franklin House. The 1811 Carrington House was given to the school in 1936 and is maintained as a house museum.

—T. B. M.

HIGHWAY EXTENSION

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton in June recommended legislation to build a parkway connection of more than three miles between *Mount Vernon*, the home and burial place of George Washington, and *Woodlawn Plantation*, a part of the original *Mount Vernon* estate in Virginia. The extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway from *Mount Vernon* to *Woodlawn Plantation* has long been considered a desirable addition to the parkway and park system of the Nation's Capital. The area between *Mount Vernon* and *Woodlawn Plantation* is being developed so rapidly that housing and population density will shortly preclude maintaining a proper setting and approach to the historic properties.

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, owner of *Mount Vernon*, and the National Trust, owner of *Woodlawn*, have endorsed the parkway proposal and supported the legislation. The National Capital Planning Commission and the National Capital Regional Planning Council unanimously approved the parkway proposal, and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Planning Commission consider it a worthwhile project. The Virginia State Highway Department will recommend to the State Highway Commission that legislation be sponsored in the Virginia General Assembly to authorize the Highway Department to transfer title to the existing 80-foot right-of-way on Route 235 to the Department of the Interior.

Stage House

The Stage House in Scotch Plains, one of New Jersey's few remaining pre-Revolutionary inns, is undergoing restoration with a fall opening planned. The structure was built by John Sutton in 1737 and first known as Sutton's Tavern. With the opening of the stage line between Philadelphia and New York, the hostelry became one of the favorite stops on the York segment of the route which runs from Lambertville to Elizabethtown. It was then that it took the name "The Stage House" or "The Swiftsure Stage House." From 1737 to 1879, it was in continuous operation and during the Revolutionary War, British and Colonial forces both marched past its doors. When the railroads came and the stage lines began to disappear, "The Stage House" became a popular summer resort with many of its guests coming from New York.

A corporation, Stage House, Inc. (a Trust member), was founded with funds subscribed in exchange for common stock, enabling it to acquire title to the building. The enterprise was given three other local buildings: a blacksmith shop more than 200 years old, once owned by an operator of the inn; a small four-room house dating from 1863; and an old barn dating from the 1750's.

The Stage House will be completely restored to accommodate a restaurant and other buildings will be set up as shops. The sites of the original carriage houses have been found, and these will be reconstructed on their original foundations and used as shops also. The type of shops planned are a decorating service, antiques and reproductions, glass and china, books, gourmet foods, country clothes, florist, apothecary, and leather goods. The result will be the inn and shops forming a courtyard for strolling, shopping, and dining. The immediate area surrounding the project has a population of more than 300,000 unserved by this type of restaurant or specialty shops.

Restoration of the Stage House culminates a campaign inaugurated more than a year ago by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Township Committee, Glen M. Smyth, and other groups and individuals to save the eighteenth-century inn from destruction. Charles H. Detwiller, Jr., of Plainfield, N. J., is the architect for the $200,000 project.

SPRING IN SPRINGFIELD

A "Spring in Springfield" preservation workshop was held June 10-12 under the co-sponsorship of the Illinois Department of Conservation, the Illinois State Historical Society, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Expenses of the course, which had a registration of 80, were underwritten by a grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc., of Indianapolis, Ind., whose contribution provided a faculty of 12 experts, study and laboratory materials, and organizational expenses for the course. Co-directors of the workshop were Richard S. Hagen, historian for the Department of Conservation, and Richard H. Howland, president of the National Trust. State Historian Clyde Walton acted as chairman of arrangements for the course.

The workshop was one of a series of regional programs cooperatively sponsored by the National Trust and its member organizations. It was designed for an intensive study of the architectural and cultural heritage of the upper Midwest, for those working actively in the field of historic preservation. Historians; museum curators; writers; authorities on costume, textiles, ceramics, craft tools, and early building implements; and specialists

in techniques used in the operation of historic museum projects, conducted panel sessions, gave illustrated lectures, and held consultations with registrants.

Combined with this was a guided tour of Lincoln's Home, the Vachel Lindsay House, the Governor's Mansion in Springfield, and New Salem Village. At the latter area, in addition to a lecture on "Clearing the Land and Building the Settlement" by Holman J. Swinney of the Idaho Historical Society, there were demonstrations by experts on pioneer cookery, candlemaking, and the use of early tools and implements. Demonstration of museum techniques on the care of old linen and cotton fabrics, and of objects made of metal and leather, was also conducted at New Salem.

Other faculty members were Charles van Ravenswaay, Miss Agnes M. Downey, W. Howard Adams, Charles La Rocco, Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Klapthor, Mrs. Margarita Jester, Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock, and Raymond Sivesind.

PROGRESS REPORT

The "Save Walden Pond" campaign was brought to a successful conclusion in the spring when the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts ordered the Commonwealth to remove or cancel the bathhouse, parking lot, and truck ramps with which Walden Pond was defaced four years ago. The county commissioners, under whose jurisdiction the Pond falls, had made extensive plans to translate Walden Pond into a public bathing beach. An outcry came from around the world. Letters from Thoreauites poured in on the Concord Chamber of Commerce. The London *Times,* solemnly and in measured prose, took a firm stand against this official impertinence. A committee of the Thoreau Society organized the "Save Walden Pond" campaign and has been fighting the commissioners of Middlesex County since 1957, when the bathing beach plans were first revealed. Mrs. Henry P. Hoffstot, Jr., a member of the Trust, recently made a contribution to help defray legal fees incurred by the Thoreau Society's three-year campaign.

Gilbert Stuart's birthplace in North Kingston, R. I., has received a grant of $1,500 from the Rhode Island Foundation. A portion of the fund has already been used to reshingle the birthplace of the famous colonial artist. The balance will be used to replace two dams around the grist mill that Stuart's father operated near the Pettaquamscutt Pond. One dam furnishes water to the full-size reproduction of the wooden water wheel the elder Stuart employed to run his mill.

Carnegie Hall received assurance of preservation when a citizens committee, headed by Isaac Stern, violinist, successfully pressed for legislation to save it from demolition. Governor Rockefeller, in signing the enabling act into law, said the structure would be a fitting monument to the great musical artists who have performed there over the years. The hall was dedicated in 1891 with a concert by the Russian composer Tschaikowsky, conducting his own works.

In "A Column on Columns" (Vol. 11, No. 1, 1959, of *Historic Preservation*) report was made of the plight of four Ionic columns, designed by Thomas U. Walter in 1836 for the Philadelphia residence of Matthew Newkirk. Because of the generosity of the Institute for Advanced Study and 200 public-spirited contributors, the four-column portico stands in its new location in the Princeton Battle Field Park, flanked by the circle of lofty pines which enclose the slab marking the common grave of Revolutionary sol-

Matthew Newkirk residence as it originally stood at 13th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia

diers, both British and American. The portico had been moved to Princeton about 1900 to adorn the house known as *Mercer Manor,* which was taken down in 1957 to make room for the development of the Institute. Dedication at its new site was made on Armistice Day. Those in attendance included Frank Thompson, member of Congress from the Fourth District of New Jersey; Prof. Sherley W. Morgan, director emeritus of the School of Architecture of Princeton and president of the Princeton Portico Fund; and Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development of New Jersey, Salvatore A. Bontempo. Placement of the two dozen 140-year-old, 10-ton sandstone columns removed from the East Front of the Capitol, featured in "A Column on Columns," remains unsolved.

The Chinese Joss House, Oroville, Calif., a building dating from California's early days, has been restored and filled with elaborate and valuable Orientalia. The Oroville Women's Community Club in 1949 undertook to restore the temple on the occasion of the city's centennial; restoration was completed this summer with members of the Chan family formally turning the property over to the city. Many boxes of articles had been stored in the building since it went into disuse following damages of the 1907 flood, when more than 5½ inches of water stood in the brick temple. Construction was begun on the temple in 1858 when Oroville had a population of 10,000 Chinese. There are now an estimated 50. Completed in 1863, the main temple was used for worship of deities and idols. It contains many colorful wooden prayer boards, incense pots, and the images of two men and a woman. In the adjoining Temple of the Moon, worship was confined to Confucius and Buddha. The ground floor was a communal center of the Chinese. Here advisers counseled their people, wrote letters, and settled disputes. Added to the main temple in later years was the Chan family room and, until the restoration, entry was limited to local descendants of this family. The Chan idol is on prominent display on an altar. Lining the walls are silk and gold tapestries preserved and returned to the temple after its restoration by women of the Chan family.

Alexandria's (Va.) eighteenth-century Lloyd House, once the center of the city's social life, is going to be restored and turned into an office building for research geologists, its owner recently announced. Robert V. New, who bought the brick house sight-unseen in 1956 to save it from demolition, said it will be used by a 12-man geology department of the Green River Basin Corporation of Wyoming. Mr. New is president of the petroleum engineering and exploration firm. "We hope to move into the Lloyd House by the end of September," he said. "I will have an office there, too, and will con-

tinue to own the property." The Lloyd House has been locked up and in a state of disrepair since Mr. New bought it after reading of its threatened demolition while he was waiting for a plane at the National Airport. Considered a fine example of Georgian architecture, the house was built in 1793 by John Wise, an innkeeper who also owned Gadsby's Tavern. Gen. Robert E. Lee reportedly learned he was to lead the Confederate forces when he arrived at the steps of the Lloyd House to visit his cousin, Mrs. Lloyd. New, who lives in a copy of *Mount Vernon* near Wilmington, Del., said restoration of the Lloyd House would cost about $40,000. He has already spent about $137,000 for its purchase and maintenance. "What really jelled my thinking about the future of Lloyd House was an offer I got from a big oil company, which wanted to build a gas station on the site," Mr. New said, "but I just didn't want to see the old place come down."

Spring dedicatory ceremonies in Braintree, Mass., climaxed two and a half years of relocating, reconditioning, and restoring the birthplace of Gen. Sylvanus Thayer, "Father of West Point." The 1720 homestead, now situated opposite Braintree Town Hall, will serve as the town's Community Historical Center. General Thayer was superintendent of West Point from 1816 to 1833. The Society's goal was to restore the structure to its appearance at the time of the General's boyhood in the 1790's. Ninety per cent of the house's interior finish, paneling, sheathing, and ceilings, were discovered intact beneath later plasterings. Featured are the original sunken buttery and wallpapers reproduced from remains surviving from the eighteenth century. Sylvanus Thayer was born in the house in 1785. Lauded as the "father of the United States Military Academy," he founded Thayer Academy and the Thayer School of Civil Engineering at Dartmouth College. An 1811 graduate of the academy on the Hudson, he fought in Canada during the War of 1812. Returning to West Point in 1816 General Thayer's many reforms secured his reputation as the school's first great commandant. During the Civil War, he supervised the construction of Boston's harbor fortifications and served as advisor to the Union Army. After founding the Thayer Public Library, General Thayer died in Braintree in 1872.

SPLIT-LEVEL

It will take more than the collapse of part of their pre-Revolutionary house in Pennsylvania to move an elderly couple, both 76. A great chunk of the front of their house gave way during the spring, leaving a gaping hole as if a bomb had burst there. "All the same," they declared, "we don't care what happens; we're not going to leave our home. We've lived here for over 50 years, and this home was built when there were only trees and Indians around here. It'll last us."

The house is in a rustic setting, its centuries-old stones held together by a compound of clay and animal hair. It lacks water, electricity, heating, and plumbing facilities. In extremely cold weather the two move to a barn on their property which has a stove.

A neighbor has offered to build them a three-room bungalow, free, but the couple has decided that they still don't want to leave—"we don't think we could get used to anything else."

Victorian Acquisitions

Described by the Smithsonian Institution as "one of the most important sets of Victorian furniture now preserved in any American museum," two elaborate suites from a house of an American manufacturer of the 1870's have been donated to the Institution. They will be displayed in their new Museum of History and Technology, now being built on the Mall in Washington. The donor, Charles W. Holton, of Essex Fells, N. J., is a collateral relative who inherited the furniture from the granddaughter of the original owner. The offer of the furnishings was made to the National Trust which assisted in its placement.

The gift comprises the damask-upholstered parlor suite and the "ebony" bedroom suite bought by the manufacturer Richard Kennerdell for his mansion in western Pennsylvania. Kennerdell emigrated to the United States as a young boy, with his English parents, reaching Philadelphia in 1826. It was not many years before the enterprising young man went "West"—to the western edge of Pennsylvania, where he became involved in a variety of mill enterprises. Kennerdell's abilities and the growth of the county around him caused his enterprises to prosper, and the town which grew up around the mill took his name, as did the postal station some miles distant. He built a school and a church for his town, and on the hillside near his mills he built a large mansion for himself.

The parlor suite of two settees, two arm chairs, and four side chairs, are all decorated with elaborate carving in fine woods, copying French details of the Louis XIV period. There are four matching window cornices, with their original lace curtains. The pattern of the curtains is a close parallel to that of the tufted red damask upholstery on the furniture. Also included in the gift is the cut-glass chandelier that always hung with the parlor furniture.

The bedroom suite includes a bed, wardrobe, bureau, washstand, night table, towel rack, rocking chair, two straight chairs, and three window cornices, all with a lustrous dark ebony finish over their solid cherry frame. The headboard of the bed rises in a shallow half-canopy, seven feet high, with an inset panel of blue silk damask; a similar panel is inset in the towel rack. The headboard and footboard of the bed, and the cornice of the wardrobe, are decorated with English tiles marked with identification of the famous Minton factory. The lace curtains also survive for the bedroom windows, and in addition there are the original tassel-hung draperies in the same blue damask as the panels in the bed and towel rack.

Bureau of bedroom suite with bed and chair reflected in the mirror

The furniture has always been said by the family to have been bought at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876, from "Allen of Philadelphia"—probably Allen & Brother, the most noted Philadelphia furniture makers of the time. The letter "A," worked into the keys of the drawers of the bedroom suite, supports this attribution, as does the elaborate French-inspired decorative detailing, similar to that of two examples by Allen & Brother illustrated in the two-volume book on the displays at the Centennial, *Masterpieces of the Centennial Exhibition.*

PROPOSED PRESERVATION

Bermuda, La. One of the Cane River country's colonial houses, *Reform,* was snatched from threatened destruction recently when the house built by François Robiaux near Bermuda in 1817 was purchased by Maj. and Mrs. William Richardson. Restoration of the old house, unoccupied for many years, has been started. The house, which passed from Robiaux to one of his sons-in-law named Flanner, was purchased during the Reconstruction by a mulatto named Carroll Jones. It is from one of his descendants that the Richardsons purchased the building and the surrounding 22 acres, including some river frontage. Robiaux had 3 daughters, one married Michael Boyce on whose plantation Boyce, La., stands today; another married Joseph Henry, later owner of *Melrose Plantation;* and the third was married to Dr. Flanner, to whom *Reform* passed. "As for the name of the place," writes François Mignon, "it seems possible it may have been coined for the same reason plantations along the Mississippi were christened 'Reform.' Like the Mississippi, Red River (after 1832 known as Cane River), down to this day is forever changing its course, nibbling off property on one bank and re-forming plantations on the opposite bank. Quite possibly such action by the river on the Robiaux grant had much to do with its name, *Reform.*"

Union, S. C. The country estate named *Rose Hill,* residence of South Carolina's secessionist governor, William H. Gist, will be developed into a state park with $40,000 voted by the state senate. The movement to acquire the property was backed by the Union Historical Foundation, which adopted a resolution calling on the county delegation to take necessary steps to have the house and gardens placed in the park system. The three-story brick mansion, built in 1828, was restored by Clyde T. Franks of Laurens in 1942, who sold it and 44 acres of land to the state for $35,000. Mr. Franks donated the many antiques in the old mansion. The house takes its name from the old garden where tradition says 100 rose bushes grew. *Rose Hill* and the residence of Senator John C. Calhoun at Clemson are the only two historic houses in upper South Carolina that have been restored and are now open to the public.

Birmingham, Ala. For 52 years the covered bridge across the Tallapoosa at Horseshoe Bend withstood the elements. Finally, in 1959, the weather dealt a blow that collapsed a small portion. A new, efficient, concrete span now serves the public, but the old covered bridge adjacent is to be remodeled and reopened as a tourist attraction. It cost $14,000 to build the covered bridge, with its sturdy oak timbers held together by 1600 wooden pegs, in 1908.

Columbia, S. C. Ainsley Hall Mansion, designed by Robert Mills and constructed in 1823 on what is now the Columbia Bible College campus, is threatened by redevelopment plans in the city. Columbia's urban rehabilita-

tion director submitted a formal request for a 314 Demonstration Grant from the United States Housing and Home Finance Agency to the Regional Administration in Atlanta, who endorsed the proposal and forwarded it to Washington for final approval.

The proposed grant would be used to devise and test new techniques to determine the economic and physical feasibility of rehabilitating structures of architectural and historical significance by moving them from incompatible land use areas to locations where they can be restored and adopted for modern re-use, with the Federal Government paying two-thirds of the cost and the local community furnishing the remaining third. It is thought that if the city is successful in securing the grant, in raising its share of the money, and relocating Ainsley Hall Mansion (and possibly two other historic buildings), other communities throughout the country may use the same techniques in relocating their historic buildings that are threatened with destruction through urban rehabilitation. The project is being backed by the Urban Rehabilitation Advisory Committee for the Preservation of Historic Buildings of the City of Columbia; the Board of Trustees of the Bible College has pledged full cooperation in preserving the landmark.

Mashpee, Mass. A $20,000 fund is being raised to underwrite the exterior and interior restoration of the Old Indian Church. The original door and center aisle, changed in 1854 to two doors and two aisles, will be reconstituted. Inside floor and plaster have already been taken up, revealing two forgotten windows. Built in 1684 of lumber hauled to Cape Cod from another section of Plymouth Colony, the church was moved to its present location in 1717. The restoration committee states, "The importance of saving and restoring so historic a site and structure as that of the Old Indian Church should be a Cape-wide concern, for indeed it represents so much that is America. The Old Indian Church is the spiritual and tangible enbodiment of the story of two cultures and the earnest desire of a primitive people in their efforts to adopt and live in an advanced culture that was so suddenly presented to them." Inscription on an old headstone in front of the church reads: "In memory of friends who labored among the Indians. To the ones who gave more grounded hopes of adoration to the things of God in 1711. Daniel Webster left a trust fund in charge of Harvard College for the perpetuation of preaching to the Indians. These preachers were Simon Popnenet, Solomon Briant, William Apes and Joseph Amos, 'the Blind Preacher.' That it may stand on all future years the indestructible record of a rugged race to be governed by the world of the Lord in all things, now to their gentle memory be taught but kind regards and to their quiet ashes—peace."

New London, Conn. Plans are underway not only to preserve and rehabilitate the Old Town Mill, one of the area's chief historical landmarks, but to make the area a center for New London's history by moving the Nathan Hale schoolhouse to the site. The proposal, sponsored by the historical society and city officials, has received enthusiastic support. The historical society members are studying ways to raise money to put the mill back into condition and protect it from vandals. Under consideration are a high fence, repair of the interior of the mill including reconstruction of the water wheel, operation of the grinding stones, installation of power and water lines, construction of a bridge across the brook, and sale of Gov. Winthrop Johnny Cake meal.

BALCH HOUSE

Beverly, Mass., recently claimed a new distinction—the home of the oldest house in the United States. This fact was revealed by the Balch House Associates and the Beverly Historical Society (a Trust member), which owns the 325-year-old dwelling, as efforts were expanded to obtain funds to restore it.

Long-known as "the oldest frame house about which there was a written record," the John Balch homestead has now been established by the Society as the oldest house extant in the country. Recent archaeological excavations and research disproved St. Augustine's previous claim of having the oldest house in America—presumably dating from before 1636. The Florida claim was disputed by disclosure that all buildings in St. Augustine were razed in 1702 by a Governor Moore of South Carolina, proving that St. Augustine's "oldest house" is a reconstruction instead of an original structure. After an exhaustive checking of records throughout the country, the Society claims that the Balch House, built by John Balch, 11 generations ago, is the oldest original house in the United States.

Records at the Essex County courthouse in Salem show that John Balch, one of the original planters of the Salem area, signed the deed for his house in November 1635. He had come to America from Somersetshire, England, in 1623, and obtained a grant of 200 acres of land. The clapboard structure was built in the spring of 1636 and occupied by Benjamin Balch, son of John, in the latter part of the same year—about the same time that Harvard College was founded. It was occupied by descendants of John Balch until 1914, when it was bought by several members of the Balch family. In 1921, it was transferred to the Balch House Trust and in 1932 was acquired by the Beverly Historical Society. During the years when the Balch House Trust owned the building, some of the older parts were restored, and land surrounding the house was purchased as a protection against fire.

A drive is currently under way to raise $30,000 in order that the house may be made structurally sound. Rotted posts, sagging beams, and cracked timbers have weakened the house, and a New England hurricane could cause its collapse.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

The Ohio Historical Society is celebrating 75 years of service to the state this year. In 1885 a group of enthusiastic citizens chartered the society. In addition to its Ohio State Museum, the society maintains 58 historical properties. It has a 50,000 volume library of Ohioana and publishes a quarterly begun in 1887.

With an emphasis on decorative arts of Alexandria and Northern Virginia in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, the Alexandria Forum is scheduled for October 27-29. A Virginia tidewater dinner will open the meeting on Thursday evening with Leslie Cheek, director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, as the guest speaker. Other participants on the program will be authorities on silver; Chinese export porcelain; early lighting; and Southern furniture, textiles, and fabrics. Field trips will be made to notable houses in the area, including a visit to *Sully*, built in 1794 by Richard Bland Lee and owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority which is restoring it as an historic house museum. The building was saved from demolition after the property was acquired as part of the site of the Dulles International Airport at Chantilly, Va. The Forum is sponsored by the Alexandria Association and co-sponsored by the Arlington Historical Society. Inquiries may be addressed to George D. Barnes, P. O. Box 727, Alexandria, Va.

The American Association for State and Local History on June 1 began an evaluation of the role of historical societies and agencies in the United States. The survey will conclude in a year with a published report. The objectives of the analysis will be to document what historical societies are doing today, to determine the effectiveness of their programs, and to assess future trends in the entire state and local history movement. The Association anticipates that the survey will enable it to guide and aid more fully historical societies in achieving their goals.

The newly formed Folsom Historical Society is asking the 1961 California legislature to pass a special bill authorizing funds to purchase and restore the Folsom residence of the Simon Cohn family which figured prominently in local and state history. The Cohn family, which can no longer maintain the old homestead, has agreed to postpone sale of the house until after the legislature acts. If the bill is not passed and the Society is unable to raise funds from other sources, the house will be sold, probably to be demolished and replaced by apartment houses. It is the hope of the group that the city of Folsom or the county of Sacramento would have an opportunity to lease the building from the state for a nominal sum and that the Society could lease it from either of these groups for use as headquarters. The house still contains many of its Victorian furnishings, and the Society would like to display the house as an example of Americana in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

A $44,000 grant was given in the spring to Historic Annapolis by Old

The Vick house, *ca.* 1840

The Cohn house, *ca.* 1900

Dominion Foundation, to enable it to carry on its program of preservation and interpretation for the next two years. The fund will be used to engage professional administrative and research personnel needed for the organization's part in preserving the city's past. Robert J. Kerr, director of the Preservation Society of Newport County, R. I., was subsequently appointed the new executive director of Historic Annapolis, Inc.

A century-old family schoolhouse was moved to a new site by the Jackson County Historical Society behind its headquarters at the restored Jackson County jail in Independence, Mo. The one-room school, donated to the society by William T. Howard of Lee's Summit, was built by his grandfather, W. B. Howard, Sr., and occupied the front yard of the Howard residence for more than 100 years. Howard, a Southern sympathizer during the Civil War, was held prisoner by the Federal Army at the county jail at Independence. Before the war he gave the Missouri Pacific Railroad right of way through his land and platted a town along the railroad which later became Lee's Summit. William T. Howard inherited the family house and 320 acres of the original 2,000-acre farm. About $2,000 is needed to complete the restoration which has already received assistance from the Women's Civic Club of Independence, several businesses, and individuals. In addition to the original children's desks, teacher's desk, and pot-belly stove, the Society has been given 10 copies of the McGuffey reader for the display in the school.

1960 is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts. The Low birthplace, built during the 1820's, in Savannah, Ga., was restored at a cost of $500,000 and is owned and operated by the Girl Scouts. Forty thousand persons have visited the Regency structure since its opening in 1956. Visitors are often greeted and shown through the structure by Daisy Gordon Lawrence, niece of the founder and the first registered Girl Scout.

In an effort to save an historic Vicksburg, Miss., residence from destruction, the Historic Foundation of Vicksburg is protesting any change in the zoning status of the area in which the house is located. The property is under option for lease or sale to a business enterprise; such a lease or sale would be dependent upon rezoning the area from residential to commercial status. The house, built in 1840, was once the residence of Dr. C. K. Marshall, a pioneer Methodist minister who married Amanda Vick, a daughter of the founder of Vicksburg, Rev. Newit Vick. The only solution worked out to date to save the house is a 15-year option at $200.00 per month, with no firm price to buy except an approximate amount of $40,000 at the end of that time. Four apartments in the house would probably net $200.00 per month and save the house for 15 years.

More than 2,500 school children came to Mystic Seaport in 1959 and as many more are expected during 1960. These boys and girls often have saved their pennies throughout the school year to put them into the class treasury for their venture into the past.

Whim Great House

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Two historic buildings on the Virgin Islands will be restored to a semblance of their former beauty and stature through the efforts of the St. Croix Museum, Inc., an educational non-profit organization founded in 1951. These are the Steeple Building in Christiansted and the Greathouse at Whim (erroneously called the Old Dutch Church) near Frederiksted.

The Steeple Building, which dates back to 1753, is owned by the Insular Government and is being restored with federal funds under the guidance of Fred Gjessing, architect of the National Park Service, and aided by Herbert Olsen, historian for the National Historic Site in Christiansted. When completed it will be occupied by the museum under a lease agreement with the Park Service. The Folmer Andersen collection of pre-historic Caribbean artifacts will be displayed along with exhibits showing the colorful history of St. Croix.

No accurate date can be set for the Whim Greathouse. Records show that a family was living on the estate as early as 1759. The title "Whim" was used from 1804 to the present, although the estate as named "John's Rest" after its first owner, John Delay. Similar type buildings on St. Croix, with semi-circular ends, date from the late 1700's. Whim Greathouse may have been built then by Moravian missionaries who were often craftsmen of various kinds. Whim is being restored by the museum with funds donated by individuals and several grants from the Insular Government. It will become a much-needed adjunct to the permanent exhibits housed in the Steeple Building. Furniture and furnishings, paintings, and other possessions used by the opulent planters at the height of the Danish Colonial regime, when sugar was king in St. Croix, will be displayed there. The structure will be completely renovated and ready for fall tourists this year.

PUBLICATIONS

The Architectural Follies in America. Clay Lancaster. Charles E. Tuttle Co., Rutland, Vt. 1960. 243 pp., index. $10.00

More than 50 examples, past and present and scattered throughout the United States, are presented from the many architectural follies in the country. Included are the Elephant Hotels of Coney Island and Margate City; the Corn Palaces of Mitchell, S. D.; the "Leaning Tower" of Niles, Ill.; the steamboat houses along the Mississippi waterways; the Octagon House of Fishkill, N. Y.; the ace-of-clubs house in Texarcana; Wright's Folly of San Francisco; and the bottle-made house of Rhyolite, Nev. Each is discussed in detail, tracing the ideas, motives, circumstances, and idiosyncracies of its builder. There are colored illustrations by the author and detailed floor plans of many of the structures.

The book traces the variety of architectural curiosa that has accumulated over the years, beginning with a discussion of examples from the Old World that in one form or another have inspired the New World models. In America the field has been open to everyone, whereas in Europe the building of architectural extravaganzas was the exclusive prerogative of grandees, princes, kings, and emperors. The European follies discussed are the Tower of Babel; the villa of the Prince of Palagonia, described by Goethe in his *Travels in Sicily;* the truncated-column residence of François Racine de Monville, French grandee of the court of Louis XVI; the Palace at Brighton of the prince who was to become George IV; the towering castles of Ludwig II of Bavaria; and the "European Palaces" of the Chinese emperor Ch'ien Lung.

A Journey to Newington. Agnes M. Hays Gormly. Old Economy, Ambridge. 1960. 8 pp.

Gleanings of the Harmony Society. Old Economy, Ambridge. 1960. 16 pp.

Both booklets, of limited edition, are printed on the 1822 Harmony Wood Printing Press. The press is one of four wood, flat-bed, hand printing presses operating regularly in museums. The other three are at Ephrata Cloisters, Lancaster Co., Pa.; Old Sturbridge Village, Mass.; and Williamsburg, Va. Cover designs and illustrations are copied from various bills of lading.

A Journey to Newington is a reprint from a booklet published by Gilbert Adams Hays, Sewickley, Pa., in 1928. *Gleanings of the Harmony Society* is presented as a memorial to Frederick Rapp, one of the Founders of the Harmony Society. As temporary head or business manager of the Society, credit is given to him for their great commercial success. It is a short history of the Harmony Society at Harmony, Pa.; Harmony, Ind.; and at Economy, Pa.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Herbert Hoover—Engineer, Humanitarian, Statesman. Dorothy Horton McGee. Dodd, Mead and Company, New York. 1959. 308 pp., index. $3.50

Origin of the American Revolution. 1759-1766. Bernhard Knollenberg. The MacMillan Company, New York. 1960. 486 pp., index. $8.50

Where to Shop, Where to Stop in Boston and along New England Motor Trails. Women's City Club of Boston, Mass. 1960. 125 pp., illus. $.50

THIRTY

Joseph C. Graves of Lexington, Ky., leader of the preservation movement in his native city and state, died suddenly on June 2, leaving as his memorial the Blue Grass Preservation Trust, which he helped to found; the restored Hunt-Morgan House; the protection afforded the Gratz Park area by legislation forwarded by him; the restored Everybody's Church designed by Cincinnatus Shryock and rescued through Mr. Graves' efforts in a last minute campaign against its demolition; and a reawakened interest throughout Kentucky in preservation.

It was Mr. Graves who first proposed a jointly-sponsored short course of the National Trust and its Kentucky member organization, "The Blue Grass Preservation Short Course," the first in a series of three such cooperative courses which were given an assisting grant by the Lilly Endowment, Inc. of Indianapolis. In fact, he and his wife Lucy were planning to attend the Workshop in Springfield, Ill., at the time of his death. He had scheduled an early return from Springfield on June 12, to receive an honorary degree of doctor of literature from Transylvania College where he had taught graphic arts for a number of sessions.

It was in the field of graphic arts that he won international recognition for the products of an old handset press, hand-printed on rare papers, with unusual bindings, fine woodcuts and hand-colored illustrations. Rare and limited editions from the Gravesend Press are in the British Museum, Library of Congress, the Caxton Club, Houghton Library at Harvard, Newberry Library in Chicago, and in the hands of private bibliophiles. He formed a friendship with the great illustrator and artist Fritz Kredel, who designed a coat of arms for the press and whose felicitous woodcuts and drawings embellished its whimsical and mischievous "typographical heresies" and scholarly books. Kredel's coat of arms and pressmark for the Gravesend Press involve its mascot, a little Sicilian donkey named Patience, who was literally a household pet. Joe Graves said the most precious bibelot in his own library was a Christmas booklet printed by a German typographer friend, an old medieval hymn in praise of donkeys—but he asked somewhat quizzically of his coat of arms, ". . . but what disturbs us about our new coat of arms is this: whose profile has Mr. Kredel carved underneath the donkey's ears?"

—H. D. B.

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